

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of screening ~~or testing~~ for candidate antifungal compounds that impair SEC14 cytosolic factor enzyme (SEC14) function, comprising:
  - a) providing ~~fungal~~ Candida albicans SEC14;
  - b) providing ~~one or more~~ a candidate compound[[s]];
  - c) contacting said Candida albicans SEC14 with said ~~one or more~~ candidate compound[[s]];and
  - d) determining the ~~interaction~~ effect of the candidate compound ~~with~~ on the activity of said Candida albicans SEC14.
2. (canceled).
3. (canceled).
4. (original) A modified eukaryotic cell(s) wherein the cell(s) expresses fungal SEC14 under the control of a heterologous promoter.
5. (original) The cell according to claim 4 which is a *C. albicans* cell.
6. (previously presented) The cell according to claim 4, wherein the SEC14 is homologous.
7. (previously presented) The cell according to claim 4, wherein the SEC14 comprises a fragment, a function-conservative variant, an active fragment or a fusion protein of SEC14.

8. (currently amended) A method of screening ~~or testing~~ for candidate antifungal compounds that impair Candida albicans SEC14 cytosolic factor enzyme (SEC14) function, comprising:

- a) providing fungal Candida albicans SEC14 in a eukaryotic cell(s) ~~as defined in claim 4~~ which expresses fungal SEC14 under the control of a heterologous promoter;
- b) providing ~~one or more~~ a candidate compound[[s]];
- c) contacting said eukaryotic cell(s) with said ~~one or more~~ candidate compound[[s]]; and
- d) determining the ~~interaction~~ effect of the candidate compound ~~with said~~ on the *Candida albicans* SEC14 activity by assessing the effect on growth or viability of said cells.

9. (previously presented) A compound identified by the method of claim 1, which impairs SEC14 function for use as an antifungal compound.

10. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a SEC14 inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. (original) *Candida* or *Aspergillus* SEC14 as a specific target for antifungal compounds.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 18 wherein the fungal infection is a topical, mucosal or systemic fungal infection.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 14 wherein the topical or mucosal

fungal infection is caused by species of *Candida* or the systemic fungal infection is caused by species of *Candida* or *Aspergillus*.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 18 wherein said compound impairs fungal SEC14 function to a greater extent than host SEC14 function.

17. (previously presented) A compound identified by the method of claim 8 which impairs SEC14 function for use as an antifungal compound.

18. (previously presented) A method for the treatment or prevention of fungal infections in a host, which comprises administering to the host a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a SEC14 inhibitor.

19. (previously presented) A method for the treatment or prevention of fungal infections in a subject who is immunosuppressed, which comprises the step of administering to the subject a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a SEC14 inhibitor.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19 wherein the fungal infection is a topical, mucosal or systemic fungal infection.

21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19 wherein the topical or mucosal fungal infection is caused by species of *Candida* or the systemic fungal infection is caused by species of *Candida* or *Aspergillus*.

22. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19 wherein said compound impairs fungal SEC14 function to a greater extent than host SEC14 function.